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KNIGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer's Report for 1959

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The following is the report of your District Medical Officer of Health for the year 1959.

Population. The population of the Urban District of Knighton, as estimated by the Registrar-General at 30th June, 1959, was 1840.

Births.

1. Live Births:		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	Legitimate	15	9
	Illegitimate	1	-
	Total	<u>16</u>	<u>9</u>

2. Still Births - 1 legitimate male.

3. Infant mortality - NIL.

4. Birth rate (per 1,000 population as adjusted by comparability factor 1.01) = 13.7.

Deaths (excluding infant mortality)

1. Males 21, Females 22, Total 43 (excludes outward transfers, includes inward transfers).

2. Death rate (per 1,000 population, as adjusted by comparability factor 0.65) = 15.2.

3. Causes:	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil
Cancer (all forms)	2	3
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory system	16	16
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	2	-
Others	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
Totals	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>

Infectious Diseases.

- (a) No case of measles was notified
- (b) No case of respiratory tuberculosis was notified
- (c) No case of Scarlet fever was notified
- (d) One acute pneumonia was notified.

Sports and Recreation. Facilities include a children's playground, a football ground and a cricket ground with pavilion, two hard tennis courts with pavilion, and a hall for dancing and other social activities.

New Council Houses. Six new Council Houses were completed in 1959.

Livestock Market. A scheme to provide parking and washing facilities for livestock transport vehicles received the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; the sanction of the Minister of Housing and Local Government to the raising of a loan for £4547 was obtained; the contract was let and is now underway.

A Schedule of proposed tolls leviable in respect of cattle, sheep, pigs and horses offered or exposed for sale in the Livestock Market and charges for the weighing of animals were considered.

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Street Lighting. A street lighting scheme to Group A standard and comprising 44 lighting points was carried out in Class I Road, A.488 from Offa's Road (junction with Market Street) to the district boundary (River Teme) and in Class I Road, A4113, Bridge Street (junction with Station Road to junction with Ludlow Road) with one of the lighting points in Ludlow Road. The Royal Fine Arts Commission assisted in the selection of suitable standards and in the siting of lighting points. Lamps of the Sodium Vapour Type, 85 watts, were adopted. Excluding the cost of laying supply cables and connecting up by the Electricity Board and the cost of reinstatement works, the contract sum was to the value of £2649. 15. 0

Recreation Grounds. The Council erected a new Sports Pavilion on the Bryn-y-Castell Sports Ground. The accommodation comprised a common room, two changing rooms each with three showers and a verandah. The County Council agreed to make a grant of £250 from the Welsh Church Act Fund towards the cost of the new pavilion.

Bus Services. An application was made to the Traffic Commissioners for permission to discontinue the 2.35 p.m. Leintwardine to Knighton and the 3.15 p.m. Knighton to Leintwardine services on Fridays. No objection was made by the Council.

Maintenance of Council Houses. 20 Alroy houses were painted externally and the walls of the outbuildings were re-decorated at a cost of £19. 1. 3 per house.

Re-grouping of Water Undertakings. The Council approved a recommendation that the proposed constituent authorities together prepare a draft Order for the constitution of a Joint Water Board for consideration by the Joint Committee with a view to its submission to the Minister.

Water Supply. During the drought of 1959 careful observations were maintained on flows and yields. The minimum yield from the authority's own sources was 104,256 gals/day. The maximum consumption was 70,000 gals/day. Supplies were, therefore, adequate and no action to obtain additional supplies was necessary. However, the Council placed an order for auxiliary pumping equipment to be available should the existing pump break down and they have under consideration a reservoir improvement scheme.

Arrangements for disinfecting workmen's boots, etc. were improved in order to avoid contamination of water during inspection and cleaning of the reservoirs.

Sewerage. The Severn River Board's Analyst reported that whilst the degree of purification attained by the filter beds at the sewerage purification works was fairly satisfactory, the settling tanks and humus tanks were less efficient. This report will be taken into consideration by the Council's consultant engineers, meanwhile, in an endeavour to improve results, the settling and humus tanks are being emptied more frequently.

Factories and Workshops. There was one addition to the Register and one deletion. Extensions to a Motor Vehicle Repair Shop were begun and structural alterations and improvements to a Tractor Repair Shop etc., were approved.

Shops. It was not necessary to take any action under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 and Food Byelaws in connection with cleanliness of equipment and of person, the handling, preparation and display of food. In general all food shops are now well provided with suitable and sufficient sanitary appliances, washing facilities, etc., and with suitable laundering arrangements for overclothing and overalls. One Food Shop premises was vacated for new premises at which extensive improvements were carried out. Further improvements were done at one other Food Shop.

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Flood Prevention Works. The work of rebuilding a section of the riverside wall in Station Road included provision of flood relief valves.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954. Two Dealer's Licences authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasteurised" were granted. Inspections were made periodically to ensure that the conditions thereon were observed. No samples of milk were taken.

The Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1959. Inspections of registered premises did not reveal any practices contravening the requirements relating to the sale of ice-cream. No samples for the bacteriological examination of ice-cream were taken. The taking of samples of ice-cream and milk is a matter which the Council might wish to consider.

Housing Improvement Grants. Three housing Improvement Grants were made.

Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses of Water. Six samples for bacteriological analyses were taken at the sources and pumping station. The analyses of the pumping station water suggested that infiltration from Wylewm Brook might be occurring and tests confirmed this. The steps which were immediately taken overcame this trouble.

A chemical analysis of a sample of water and an examination of a kettle element submitted with the sample indicated that the water contained a trace of copper salt sufficient to give rise to aluminium corrosion and to account for the black coating on the kettle and element. The water was of good organic purity.

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Meat Inspection 1959

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	21	-	-	323	14	-
Number inspected	21	-	-	323	14	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysterci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysterci	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note:- The animals were carefully selected and of prime quality.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

(Signed) B.C. DAVIES, B.M., B.Ch.

24th February, 1961